

Application No.: 10/603,444  
Amendment dated: May 2, 2005  
Reply to Office Action dated: February 1, 2005

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1 -15 (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a data storage device comprising:  
physically stabilizing, by a placement device, a hard drive head device for electrical  
bonding of said head device to a hard drive arm ~~component and~~ component;  
physically stabilizing, by the placement device, the hard drive arm component; and  
utilizing, by said placement device, sub-ambient pressure to maintain the position of said  
head device with respect to said arm component for said electrical bonding.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein said hard drive head device is a hard  
disk drive magnetic head.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said hard drive arm component is a  
suspension tongue.

19. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein said electrical bonding is ball bonding.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said electrical bonding is a type selected  
from the group consisting of gold ball bonding (GBB), solder bump bonding (SBB), ultrasonic  
welding, and stitch bonding.

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21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein said placement device includes a first vacuum tube structure for providing said sub-ambient pressure to affix said first vacuum tube structure to said head device.
22. (Original) The method of claim 21, further comprising:  
providing an alignment pin protruding from said placement device.
23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein said alignment pin is capable of being inserted into a suspension tooling hole for ensuring said proper alignment.
24. (Original) The method of claim 22, further comprising:  
providing sub-ambient pressure, by a second vacuum tube;  
vacuum-coupling said first vacuum tube structure to said head device; and  
vacuum-coupling said second vacuum tube structure to a suspension load beam attached to said arm component.
25. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the first vacuum tube structure includes a step structure mate-able to an edge of the head device.
26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein said step structure is mate-able to at least the leading edge of said head device.

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27. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein said first vacuum tube structure is a material selected from the group consisting of Stainless Steel, Copper, Aluminum Oxide, Polyimide, and Ceramic.

28. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein said second vacuum tube structure is a material selected from the group consisting of Stainless Steel, Copper, Aluminum Oxide, Polyimide, and Ceramic.